

# Mohave County Miner.

VOL. XVI.

KINGMAN, ARIZONA, DECEMBER 18, 1897.

NO. 6.

## Temple of Solid Gold.

Imagine a vast bell shaped structure higher than the great city office buildings, and you will have some idea of one of the lumps of gold which may be found without going to the Klondike or exploring the bowels of the earth anywhere. It rests on a high hill, one solid, gleaming mass, filling all the sky around it with the yellow glow of an autumnal sunset. Its value is greater than all the combined outputs of California, South Africa, Australia and the Klondike during an interval of many years. Its actual value is as bewildering to contemplate as its weight is difficult to estimate. It weighs thousands upon thousands of tons—all of pure, virgin gold.

There is latent power enough in this great, inert mass to sell all the millions of armed men in the world to butchering each other by sea and land for years and years to come, then leave enough surplus to pay off all the national debts and girdle the earth with double-tracked railways.

As it lies now it represents simply a vast faith. It is the accumulation of thousands of years of votive offerings to a deity. And the votive offerings will go on and the great gold heap continues to grow while the financial philosophers demonstrate by irresistible arguments that there is not gold enough above the earth's surface to transact the business of the world.

It is on an island in Borneo that this ancient Klondike is to be found—an island formed by the river Hlaing, and about twenty miles from where that river empties into the Gulf of Martaban. A hill rises in the center of the island to a height of about 165 feet above the level of the surrounding country and terminates in a little flat plain a few acres in extent. On this plain rests the lump of gold. The lump is not solid; its interior is a Buddhist temple. It is a shrine of Buddha—in other words, incased in a gold structure 321 feet high and covering a circular piece of ground 300 feet in diameter and tapering to a platform at the top just wide enough for three men to stand upon.

For over two thousand years people have been bringing bit by bit the grains of gold out of which this great, glittering heap has been reared, just as ants bring grain by grain the bits of sand to make their homes. From India, China, Tartary and Japan pilgrims to this shrine have brought each one his bit of gold to add to the structure in Buddha's honor.

Tradition places the beginning of the structure at 600 years before the birth of the Savior. An order of monks many hundreds of years ago took charge of the work of melting down all the gold the pilgrims brought and converting it into thick, solid sheets, with which the slowly growing brick shell of the structure was covered.

To guard against thieves it soon became necessary to have some force more tangible than mere superstition, so a guard of soldiers 2,000 strong was put about it—a force not strong enough to beat off an army, to be sure, but still sufficient to keep away any organized band of thieves, and even to restrain the fury of relic hunters with their chisels and mallets. The soldiers on guard are a detachment from the royal army of Borneo, and half their expenses are borne by the King. And among the other taxes on royalty which this religious treasure involves is the presentation to the temple by every new king when he ascends the throne of his own weight in solid gold.

Strangely enough, the hands of profane pirates have never attempted to despoil the untold wealth of this remarkable temple so many centuries old.

## Moral Progress.

Nineteenth century progress in America is not confined to commerce, science and the arts, but is developing in the application of practical ethics to business and mercantile affairs. A pleasing illustration of this tendency is shown in the interpretation of business honesty by those who, like Amos F. Eno, insist upon paying in full the claims that have been absolved by law. At the beginning

of the Civil War, in 1861, Mr. Eno was one among the number of large merchants who were driven into honorable bankruptcy by the exigencies of those troublous times. Now, after thirty-six years, he has paid to the representatives of his old creditors the amounts of their claims, many of which had been forgotten, and interest thereon, at four per cent, amounting to 144\$, interest on each dollar of principal. One such act has greater weight in the promotion of moral principles and of sound business ethics than thousands of professions of righteousness by the insincere, the hypocritical, and the corrupt, expressed always in words rather than deeds. A word of remembrance is due to the thousands of honest men who have been forced into insolvency, and, who through continued misfortune and financial pressure, have gone to their graves under a cloud of public disapproval and distrust.

## An Ultimate Benefit.

In discouraging the insane rush to the Klondike country the Western Mining World is actuated only by a desire to serve the deluded victims of a craze, and if possible protect them from the consequences of an artificial boom. Those interested from any cause in promoting the boom naturally make the outcry that an objection raised is based on self interest, and that this periodical, for instance, is governed by a desire to protect the mining interests of Montana by dissuading people from investing in the far north.

If no humanitarian sentiment entered into the question, if it were right to encourage men of limited means and less common sense to engage in rainbow chasing, the World would feel that the mining interests of Montana could be best served by promoting the stampede that promises to rival the crusades of antiquity. History has demonstrated over and over again that a great mining excitement in one locality always serves the general interests of the industry in all sections of the country. That was notably the case after the great California excitement of 1849. The mining industry, stimulated by the marvellous yield of gold, took on new life everywhere, with the result that the intermountain region was successfully prospected and wonderful producers of wealth discovered. Cripple Creek, British Columbia, and other discoveries have each in turn contributed general vigor to the mining industry and led to a more active and determined search for the precious metals. The discoveries at Dawson City will prove no exception to the rule. However rich the northland may prove to be the inflow of people will be so utterly out of proportion to the opportunities for success that other mining sections will profit from two sources. First, the general interest in mining created by the Klondike boom will diffuse itself over the country to the advantage of every district of promise; and, second, the reaction from the boom will lead to the conservative investment of capital in mining sections where speculation can be tempered by the comforts of civilized life.

It is folly to suppose that all the money seeking investment in mining projects will strike the trail of the mentally incoherent adventurers who will go on missions of poverty to the land of insects and ice. Capital will go to Alaska not to demonstrate mineral wealth but to absorb it—got to hunt for gold fields but to buy them. It isn't in the prospecting business to any overwhelming degree. That all the capital seeking desirable investments will fail to find them in that part of the world goes without saying. And yet capital set apart for investment is not hankering for manufacturing enterprises, nor is it anxious to engage in agricultural pursuits. The mining fever is on, the Klondike excitement has deepened into intensity, until capital is casting about in every mining state in the west for the only means whereby it can double itself—investment in reliable mining properties.

The greater the boom in the north, the greater the volume of gold uncovered, the greater the advantage that will be ultimately reaped by Montana and other mining states. While this conclusion is unavoidable with an intelligent observer

of events, it is nevertheless the duty of conservative men to call a halt upon the excited thousands who contemplate rushing into Alaska to take pot-luck with poverty and flirt with death, under the delusion that a sun-crowned destiny will dispel the shadows and lead them to some wonderful Mecca of gold—Western Mining World.

## Why a Negro is Called "Coon."

Many years ago, when superstition held greater sway than now, and the influences of the occult and weird were most potent, a cunning negro slave had acquired the reputation of possessing a familiar spirit and of being able to perform many uncanny mysteries. His fellow slaves held him in great awe, and even his master grew to a belief in his powers. This finally led to a wager, in which a greater part of the master's fortune was staked on the negro's divine ability. A barrel was placed on the lawn and a live coon placed under the barrel. Then the negro soothsayer was sent for and told to inform the crowd what was under the barrel. He tried in various ways to escape the exposure, but without success. Realizing that he was cornered, he leaned on the barrel dejectedly and remarked: "Well, you've got this old coon at last," whereupon a great shout applauded Sambo's remarkable astuteness, and his reputation was forever firmly established.—Baltimore Sun.

## Odds and Ends.

The King of Arizona has been sold to unknown parties for the sum of 750,000\$. It was discovered less than one year ago.

Horace Greely once said that the darkest hour in the history of a young man is when he sits down to study how he can get money without earning it.

One of the stations on the railway which is to be built from the Red sea to the top of Mount Sinai, will be on the spot where it is supposed Moses stood when he received the two tables of the law from Jehovah.

It is stated that the skin of the reindeer is so impervious to the cold that anyone clothed in such a dress, with the addition of a blanket of the same material, may bear the intensest rigor of an Arctic winter night. We publish this for the benefit of those who contemplate going to Alaska the coming spring.

William C. Todd, of Atkinson, N. H., has endowed the Boston public library with 2,000\$ a year for the purchase of newspapers. Mr. Todd says he is "impressed with the increasing importance and influence of newspapers and the great demand for them by all classes of the community." He gives the money on the simple condition that the whole annual interest on 50,000\$ be expended for newspaper subscriptions.

When you are convinced that a paper is dishonest and deceitful stop it, says the Springfield Republican. When convinced that it is unclean, stop it. When it fails to give you the local news, stop it. But don't stop a paper that you believe to be honest, courageous and clean simply because its editor has written his own sincere view instead of yours or somebody else's; for if you do, you are putting a premium on insincere journalism and serving notice on an editor that the way to succeed is to write what he thinks will best please his readers instead of what he honestly believes to be the truth.

A southern Wisconsin paper printed the following marriage notice: Wilt thou take her for thy pard, for better or worse, to have, to hold, to fondly guard till hauled off in a hearse? Wilt thou let her have her way, consult her many wishes, make up the fire every day and help her with the dishes? Wilt thou give her all the stuff, a sealskin sacque and muff? Wilt thou comfort and support her father and her mother, aunt Jemima, Uncle John, three sisters and a brother? The poor man's face grew pale and blank, it was too late to jilt; and as through the chapel floor he sank, he sadly said, "I wilt."

## An Important Consideration.

When the country comes to understand the importance of colonizing the lands of

the west with the surplus population of the great cities, and takes measures to put the same into practical operation, it will have taken a most important step in the interest of social reform. The cities of the United States are growing too fast in proportion to that of the rural or farming population. All of the dangers to the safety, prosperity and happiness of the people of this republic comes from the cities. All of the anarchy, all of the corruption in political affairs and the vast majority of the debauchery of society is to be found in city life, while the strength and saving power of the government is in its rural life, in the farm house, in the sturdy plowman, the mines and physical industrial occupations. To enlarge this class, to enlarge the farm life of this government is the one imperative need if it is to be perpetuated. How this can be done should be the consideration of an intelligent government. The colonizing policy, utilizing the surplus population of our cities by locating them in the Great West in the reclamation and cultivation of the soil. This will make honest, virtuous citizens. It will convert a threatening element into farmers, producers of bread, and taxpayers, thus interesting them in good government; that taxation may be reduced to the minimum. This is a subject which ought to call for the consideration of our federal lawmakers, for it means so much for the starving people; it means a largely increased wealth resource; and most important of all, it means a dangerous class of citizens converted into honest, stalwart, farming citizens, the bulwark of every government on earth.—Star.

## Heaven on Earth.

Rev. Dr. Adams, pastor of the First Congregational church, of this city, in an able sermon last Sunday incidentally said: "The Kingdom of Heaven is within us. We had better stop boasting of the beautiful heaven which we expect to enjoy beyond the skies and see to it that we do all we can toward establishing heaven on earth. Heaven must begin here, with each of us, or we may miss it hereafter."

These are words of wisdom, and coming from the pastor of one of the largest and most influential churches on the coast they are significant, as showing the trend of pulpit thought at the present time. The too common practice of neglecting the duties and shirking the responsibilities of this life because of a belief that there is a heaven of glory awaiting us beyond the veil of death is unchristian and in the highest degree reprehensible. Religion that fails to inspire the human heart with love for mankind, and incite to earnest effort for the betterment of our race is not worth having. He who does his best to bring sunshine into the lives of others, and thus insure to them a foretaste of heaven, will be most likely to find heavenly conditions when he passes over to the other side.—Hayes Valley Advertiser.

## The Principle of Business.

No calling requires a greater use of brain power than business, and few require a higher order of general ability. The great secret of success in business—the secret, in fact, of success on a large scale—is to conceive of it as a matter of principles, not merely as a series of transactions. There are great merchants as there are great statesmen, and there are small merchants as there are small politicians, and the difference between

the great and small men is much the same in both. The small politician works by the day, and sees only one opportunity before him; the small merchant does the same thing—he is looking for the next dollar. The statesman, on the other hand, is master of the situation, because he understands the general principles which control events. This knowledge enables him to deal with large questions and to shape the future. The great merchant does the same thing. His business is not a mere money-getting affair, not a mere matter of barter, but a science and an art. He studies the general law of trade, watches the general condition of the country, investigates present needs, foresees future wants and adapts his business to the broad conditions of his time and place. He puts as much brains into his work as does the statesman, and he ends by being not a money-getter, but a large-minded and capable man. An eminently successful man of the statesman-like quality says that the more he understood life the more clearly he saw that it was all done on business principles, by which he meant not only that the universe is governed by unvarying laws, but that the promptness, exactness, thoroughness, and honesty are wrought in every fiber. On these business principles all life is conducted—if not by man, at least by that power which is behind man. It ought to be the ambition of every young man to treat his business from the point of view of the statesman, and not from that of the politician.—M. & S. Press.

## No Laughing Matter.

An aged man reeling along Washington street recently was the subject of ridicule by a number of thoughtless boys and even men. While we fully realize the sorry spectacle of a father or brother wandering along the public highway in a drunken condition, yet no one can tell what caused the old man to resort to this condition to drown his sorrows, hence we think it is no laughing matter to witness a human being in such a terrible condition. Then do not laugh at a drunken man walking through the streets, however ludicrous the sight may be; just stop to think. He is going home to some tender heart that will throb with intense agony; some doting mother will grieve over the downfall of her once sinless boy; or it may be a fond wife, whose heart will almost break with grief as she views the destruction of her idol; or it may be a loving sister, who will shed bitter tears at the degradation of her brother, shorn of his manliness and self respect. Rather drop a tear in silent sympathy with those hearts so keenly sensitive and tender, yet so proud and loyal that they cannot accept sympathy tendered them either in word or look, although it may fall upon their wounded hearts as refreshingly as the summer dew on the withered plants.—Gazette.

The postoffice department is taking a firm stand against the so-called "missing letter" and "missing word" contests conducted by a number of publishers to increase subscriptions to their papers. The lottery law directs the postmaster-general upon the evidence satisfactory to himself that a concern or person is operating through the mails a lottery, or scheme offering prizes dependent upon lot or chance to prohibit the delivery of all mail matter to it. Missing letter contests are held to be violations of the law because many correct answers can be given, but only one list is deemed "correct" by the promoter of the scheme.

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